



Seward County Bridges

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NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION

January 7, 2011

Ms. Tiffany Mullison
Nebraska Crime Commission

Dear Tiffany:

Earlier this year, Seward County Bridges Three Year Plan committee made several revisions to our priorities, strategies and resources. We want to ensure that the grant readers and reviewers are accessing this current plan as they consider our grant. The Seward County plan posted on the crime commission's Web site does not contain these revisions.

Please let me know how to proceed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Bennett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa Bennett
Seward County Bridges Manager
(402) 417-9671
Sewardcountybridges@yahoo.com

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JUN 06 2011

NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION

**Seward County
Three Year Juvenile Services Plan
2009-2011**

*submitted 12/31/08 to Nebraska Crime Commission (** and in red indicates additions to the plan May 2010)*

Priority one

Educate, engage and involve parents and other adults as role models in the lives of county youth and in youth programs.

Strategy one: Use environmental approaches such as public relations campaigns, town hall meetings and hands-on projects that will result in changes to laws, policies and practices.

Resources:

- ❖ **Increased Web presence with resources for parents on school and Bridges' Web Sites.** Who: UN-L Extension, Bridges, schools. Timeline: Fall 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents will have access to research-based data relevant to priority one.
- ❖ **Safe Homes Campaign.** Who: Juvenile Diversion, Bridges, Extension, parents. Timeline: Spring 2009. Partners will implement into already existing programs. Results: Parents and neighborhoods will build a drug-free environment for youth.

Strategy two: Provide educational opportunities for parents and adults to increase 40 Developmental Assets in youth.

Resources:

- ❖ **Family Nights.** Who: Extension, Bridges St. John Child Development Center, Memorial Health Care Systems, schools, churches, Concordia University. Timeline: Fall 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents will strengthen their skills in establishing positive family relationships and improving family communications.

Program will schedule ten Seward programs and quarterly Milford programs in 09-10. Public school and Concordia student organizations will provide child care. Extension will coordinate registration. Churches and schools will provide facility and meal preparation. Schools and Extension will schedule presenters. Extension will meet with Centennial School District in spring 2009 to begin plans for Utica program. All partners will assist with public relations.

- ❖ **Diversion support group.** Diversion and St. John will host a parent support group for parents who have participated in diversion classes and desire ongoing support. Parents will meet regularly. Group begins December 4, 2008 and ongoing. Results: Parents will continue to support one another, and share experiences and expertise.

Extension and diversion will host four-week sessions for parents of adolescents and teens. Extension will teach. Economic development director will assist with public relations by marketing to local employers. Chamber will assist by marketing through its newsletter. Schools will post on Web sites. Newspaper will publish news releases.

- ❖ **40 Developmental Assets training.** Extension will continue to train professional, volunteer and ** faith-based youth workers on the assets. Timeline: Ongoing. Results: Participants will learn the common sense, positive experiences and qualities that help influence choices young people make and help them become caring, responsible adults.

Extension and Bridges will collaborate to teach assets to those programs receiving county aid funds. Timeline: Spring 2009 and annually.

Extension will publish in newspaper "asset rich community" series of articles from the Search Institute. Timeline: 2009-011.

Strategy three: Build volunteer network and adult role model network.

Resources:

- ❖ **Mentoring.** Timeline: 2009-11. Results: Mentors will inspire youth to reach their full potential. TeamMates in all three school districts will increase the number of current mentors. TeamMates coordinators will begin asking local employers to allow employees time off for mentoring. Seward County Young Professionals is also a partner in this resource.

Probation, Health and Human Services, diversion and schools will research opportunities for a mentoring program with more specialized training for youth in the court system or receiving services. Research will begin in 2009 with implementation scheduled for 2011.

- ❖ **Afterschool clubs.** Timeline: Ongoing. Results: Program provides youth with opportunity for positive, creative, character-building activities after the school bell rings and on school days off. Partners are extension, Bridges, schools and volunteers. Program will recruit 30-40 volunteers to provide youth with positive, character-building classes, an ATOD prevention component and community service opportunities.

- ❖ **CASA.** Timeline: 2010. Results: Youth will experience caring community and local support system. Businesses and Region V will provide transition services for youth aging out of the foster care system including classes and mentoring such as PALS.
- ❖ **Volunteer network.** Timeline: 2010. Results: Project will connect those organizations seeking volunteers and those individuals seeking to volunteer. Bridges partners with an entity such as the Seward County Independent or Four Corners to hire a Concordia intern to establish and maintain a Web site. Bridges works with Concordia's career services. Seward County Economic Development is also a partner in this resource.

Strategy four: The court system will require that divorcing couples attend Parents Forever or similar curriculum, and strong suggest that parents whose children are in juvenile diversion participate in diversion classes.

Resources:

- ❖ **Parents Forever and similar curriculum.** Timeline: 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents maintain family bonds and communication, and youth seek out parents' advice and counsel. Extension provides classes every other month.
- ❖ **Diversion classes.** Timeline 2009 and ongoing. Results: Same as above. Diversion will meet with parents upon intake into program and inform them of available opportunities.

Priority two

Advocate against social acceptance of underage drinking and drug use, and **reduce other at-risk behaviors such as irresponsible social media usage and early sexual debut.

Strategy one: Provide opportunities after the school bell rings and on school days off for youth to engage in positive, not risky, behaviors.

Resources:

- ❖ **4-H Afterschool Clubs.** Timeline: 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program will instill youth with strong character traits, decision-making abilities and usable technical skills. Program will offer 48 clubs per year in all three public school districts.
- ❖ **Youth centers Seward and Beaver Crossing.** 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program provides youth with a safe, alcohol and drug-free after-school environment to engage in positive and supervised activities and community service opportunities.

- ❖ Increase attendance and participation in extracurricular activities. This resource will target youth not currently engaged, and provide financial assistance where needed. 2009 and ongoing. Results: More youth will participate in extracurricular activities than currently participate. Schools will collaborate with Bridges on a survey to identify interest areas, and schedule activities to coincide with those interest areas. Schools will continue to support existing activities such as sports, music and drama. Other partners include parents, Afterschool, community libraries and youth centers.

Strategy two: Use environmental approaches to advocate against underage drinking and drug use, ** and against other at risk behaviors such as irresponsible social media usage and early sexual debut.

Resources:

- ❖ Parents Who Host Lose the Most. Timeline: Spring 2009. Results: Program will educate parents about the risks and dangers of underage alcohol consumption, and about the state's social host liability legislation. Bridges will coordinate the project with assistance from all team members and their organizations.
- ❖ Increased Web presence on school and Bridges Web sites. Timeline: Spring 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents and youth will have access to research-based data concerning priority two. All team partners will be provide useful resources to Bridges and school technical coordinator for posting.
- ❖ Risk and Protective Factors mailing. Timeline: January 2009. Results: Project will educate the community about last school year's survey results.
- ❖ Establish anti-ATOD school club, or incorporate into existing club. Timeline: Fall 2009. Results: Program will establish a greater anti-ATOD presence and message in public schools. Existing clubs such as FFA, FCCLA, Key Club and student councils will host activities. In cooperation with Region V, Afterschool will schedule an environmental scan project to identify sites where retailers and others exhibit alcohol advertising.
- ❖ **Prescription drug abuse awareness and education programs. Timeline 2011. Results: Reduce prescription drug abuse. Who: Schools, Four Corners, Bridges, Extension, Blue Valley, Region V, Diversion, others.
- ❖ **Social media awareness and education programs and projects. Timeline 2010 and ongoing. Result: Improve social media behaviors and sensitivity. Who: Schools, Extension, Diversion, Four Corners, Bridges, law enforcement, everybody.

- ❖ WAIT Training. Timeline 2010 and ongoing. Result: Delay sexual debut and improve communication and decision-making skills. Who: Bridges, Extension, Diversion, schools, Four Corners, “friends of Susan,” everybody.

****Strategy three:** Schedule law enforcement initiatives to reduce driving under the influence and alcohol sales to minors, and increase the number of responsible beverage servers.

Resources:

- ❖ Sobriety checkpoints. Timeline 2010 and ongoing. Results: Fewer drivers will drive under the influence and the number of alcohol-related crashes and fatalities will decrease. Who: Seward County Sheriff, Bridges, MADD, SPFSIG, Region V, volunteers and other law enforcement agencies.
- ❖ Compliance checks. 2010 and ongoing. Results: fewer retailers will sell alcohol to minors. Who: Seward County Sheriff, Bridges, Region V, Department of Motor Vehicles, volunteers.
- ❖ Responsible beverage server trainings: 2011 and ongoing. Results: Fewer eating and drinking establishments will sell alcohol to intoxicated customers. Who: Seward County Sheriff, Bridges, SPFSIG, Region V and other agencies.

Priority three

Enhance Seward County Pretrial Diversion and Probation services and programs.

Strategy one: Implement electronic monitoring and alcohol detection programs

Resources:

- ❖ Electronic monitoring. Timeline: ongoing. Results: Program will allow probation to more easily communicate with parolees, and will also save the county detention costs. Who: Probation, sheriff, Health and Human Services, diversion. Program currently share monitors but may need to purchase additional units.
- ❖ SCRAM. Timeline: 2009. Results: Program increases public safety by more efficient monitoring of individuals convicted of alcohol related offenses. Probation and diversion will utilize the tool for juvenile offenders in their programs.

Strategy two: Implement new program evaluation tool.

Resources:

- ❖ YLS/CMI. Timeline: 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program has an accurate means of evaluating young offenders and determining rehabilitation needs. Who: Diversion, Probation, Health and Human Services.

****Strategy three:** Implement prompt prevention and intervention strategies for truant students with an individualized plan that focuses on collaboration with parents toward reestablishing attendance in school.

Resources:

- ❖ Seward County Truancy Program: Timeline 2010 and ongoing. Results: reduce number of truant students in Seward County. Who: Seward County Truancy Program, Seward County Attorney, Bridges, Blue Valley Behavioral Health, Extension and schools.

Priority four

Seward County Bridges will continue to be the central and priority agency for juvenile justice and prevention.

Strategy one: The county will contract with Bridges to coordinate efforts around the juvenile plan, and obtain supplemental funding for county juvenile services programs.

Resources:

- ❖ Juvenile Services Planning team. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program will compose, utilize and implement a meaningful plan whose strategies and resources benefit county youth. Who: Bridges and all team members and their organizations. Team will meet twice yearly to monitor plan compliance and adjust as needed. Bridges will submit needed update to the commission.
- ❖ Grant writing. 2009 and ongoing. Results: All programs will see increased sustainability as funds are secured. Bridges is the central agency to ensure that programs attain their proposed solutions. Who: Bridges with support of all team members and their organizations.
- ❖ Grant management and fiscal agent services. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Programs receiving grant funding will be in compliance with all funder requirements, and Bridges will provide oversight and accountability in all financial transactions. Who: Bridges.
- ❖ Bridges' operations sustainability. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Bridges will have sufficient operating funds. Who: Bridges and all team partners.